



The questions asked represent the best balance between your tribal community's needs and our commitment to reduce the time and effort it takes you to fill out the form.

Five BIG Reasons Why American Indians and Alaska Natives Should Fill Out the Census Form

1 Help Your Community Thrive. Does your reservation or Indian community have elderly people living alone? Over crowded schools? Census numbers can help your community work out improvement strategies.

The 1990 census indicated that 39 percent of American Indians and Alaska Natives were under 20 years old, compared with only 29 percent of the total U.S. population.

2 Get Help in Times of Need. Many 911 emergency systems are based on maps developed for the last census. Census information helps health providers predict the spread of disease through communities with children or elderly people. When floods, tornadoes or earthquakes hit, the census tells rescuers how many people will need their help.

The Indian Health Service (IHS) uses census to identify specific reservations in need of housing assistance.

3 Make Government Work for You. It's a good way to tell our tribal leaders who we are and what we need. The numbers are used to help determine the distribution of almost \$200 billion in federal funds and even more in state funds each year. We're talking about hospitals, community centers, roads, and school lunch programs.

Thirty-one percent of American Indians and Alaska Natives live below the official government poverty level, according to the 1990 census.

4 Reduce Risk for Business. Because accurate numbers help businesses reduce financial risk and locate potential markets, businesses are better able to produce the products you want.

In order to succeed in the 21st Century, Indian-owned businesses will need to have the facts about consumer markets and labor supply.

5 Help Yourself and Your Family. Individual records are held confidential for 72 years, but you can request a certificate from past censuses that can be used as proof to establish your age, residence or relationship, information that could help you qualify for a pension or obtain an inheritance. In 2072, your great-grandchildren may want to use census information to research family history and course of ancestral change. Right now, your children may be using census information to do their homework.

Because we have a census every 10 years, we know there are nearly 2 million American Indians and Alaska Natives in the U.S. and their numbers are growing.

**The law protects
your privacy.
Individual
answers are
edited and
summed before
they are released
to the public.**

**For additional
information about
Census 2000, visit
the Census Bureau's
Internet site at
<http://www.census.gov>
or call one of our
Regional Census Centers
across the country:**

**Atlanta 404-331-0573
Boston 617-424-4977
Charlotte 704-344-6624
Chicago 312-353-9759
Dallas 214-655-3060
Denver 303-231-5029
Detroit 248-967-9524
Kansas City 816-801-2020
Los Angeles 818-904-6522
New York City 212-620-7702
or 212-620-7703
Philadelphia 215-597-8312
Seattle 206-553-5882**

50 Ways to Use Census 2000

- Decision-making at all levels of government
- Reapportionment of seats in the U.S. House of Representatives
- Drawing federal, state and local legislative districts
- Drawing school district boundaries
- Budget planning for government at all levels
- The distribution of almost \$200 billion in federal funds and even more in state funds
- Spotting trends in the economic well-being of American Indians and Alaska Natives
- Forecasting future transportation needs for all segments of the population
- Planning for public transportation services
- Planning for hospitals, nursing homes, clinics and the location of other health services
- Planning health and educational services for people with disabilities
- Forecasting future housing needs for all segments of the population
- Establishing fair market rents and enforcing fair lending practices
- Directing funds for services for people in poverty
- Directing services to children and adults with limited English language proficiency
- Designing public safety strategies
- Urban planning
- Rural development
- Land use planning
- Analyzing local trends
- Understanding labor supply
- Estimating the numbers of people displaced by natural disasters
- Assessing the potential for spread of communicable disease
- Developing assistance programs for low-income families
- Analyzing military potential
- Creating maps to speed emergency services to households in need of assistance
- Making business decisions
- Delivering goods and services to local markets
- Understanding consumer needs
- Designing facilities for people with disabilities, the elderly or children
- Planning for congregations
- Product planning
- Locating factory sites and distribution centers
- Investment planning and evaluation of financial risk
- Setting community goals
- Publication of economic and statistical reports about American Indians and Alaska Natives
- Standard for creating both public- and private-sector surveys
- Scientific research
- Comparing progress between different geographic areas
- Developing "intelligent" maps for government and business
- Genealogical research (after 2072)
- Proof of age, relationship or residence (certificates provided by the Census Bureau)
- School projects
- Medical projects
- Developing adult education programs
- Media planning and research, back-up for news stories
- Historical research
- Evidence in litigation involving land use, voting rights and equal opportunity
- Determining area eligible for housing assistance and rehabilitation loans
- Attracting new businesses to state and local areas



**Generations are counting on this.
Don't leave it blank.**